

**Camp Harkness Advisory Committee
Camp Harkness Office
301 Great Neck Road
February 27, 2014
Minutes**

Present: Stan Soby, Vicki Severin, April Dipollina, Bev Jackson, Shannon Aiello, Thomas Dailey, Ron Rasi, Ginny Hogan, Jackson Pierre-Louis

Others Present: Ernie Smith, Neil Cobleigh, Chris Pierce, Carin Mancini, Frank Provenzano, Liz Adams, Charle Smith, Roseanna Smith

- 1. Call to Order:** 10:35 AM
- 2. Public Comments:** None
- 3. Additions to Agenda:** None
- 4. Approval of Minutes:** April motioned to accept with amendments. Bev seconded the motion. All were in favor. Ginny abstained.
- 5. Correspondence:** None
- 6. Camp Harkness Fund:**
 - Tax exempt status still unresolved
- 7. Old Business:**
 - A. Equestrian Program – High Hopes Presentation and Discussion**
 - Liz Adams (program director) spoke about the progress in the partnership with the High Hopes pilot program at Camp Harkness facilities
 - Larger participation
 - Plan to partner with other organizations who use the camp
 - Increase to 4 days at camp
 - Programming afternoons with other organizations
 - Long range vision of what program will look like – year round services
 - Stan opened discussion about User Agreement with High Hopes
 - Tom asked if agreement will be extended to the time frame of 1 or 3-5 years
 - Liz asked if she should reach out to other organizations who might want to use services
 - Jackson wondered if campers will ride in the afternoons. Liz responded that they are targeting mornings due to conditions – heat in the afternoons are an issue for horses
 - Ron asked if High Hopes Program could accommodate group homes
 - High Hopes pilot phase 2 will still be limited but will double its services to campers
 - Future plans to accommodate other groups
 - Vicki wondered about afternoon services for day campers
 - Ginny mentioned highlighting the High Hopes program in the ARC application for camp; suggested it would help in preparation of programming

B. Camp Report

i. Physical Plant

- Ernie reported that work has started on taking down stalls at barn
- Removal of shrubs
- Approval to repair flooring in Cottage 2
- Work continues in Dining Room
- Insulation
- Hazardous waste person needs to check old heating units for asbestos
- Flooring to be installed
- Different door from garage door to be installed
- New partitions installed in beach bath house
- Floor sandblasted and to be clear coated
- 3 cars for train reconstructed, 2 remain; Stan will check progress
- New gate locks at entrance are completed
- New counter tops in office
- Bids for brown cabins accepted; demo may start next week
- Tom reported that resources are coming from people moving out of Southbury

ii. Camp Programs/Usage/Events

- See attached
- Vicki reported:
 - 200 reservations have been processed
 - Yoga continues
 - Art program on Saturday mornings
 - MS group is planning a walk; impressed with changes in dining room
 - 53 people used camp
- Vicki has attended Camp Fairs across the state
- Carin is working to make the web site user friendly; she was in Hartford last week

C. Feasibility Study for Master Plan

- Frank shared an example of a study done for a facility comparable to Camp Harkness
- The example gave the committee an idea of the gradual transition and a heads up of what to expect or ask the planning group to provide

D. Park Rules

- Continued discussion regarding issues with electric needs and the use of extension cords
- Concerns were expressed regarding power for C-Pap machines
- Suggested use of car adaptors

E. Summer Fest

- Vicki and staff discussed planning small events throughout the summer
- June - highlight renovations of dining hall
- Manage events with other groups
- Plan a September event while summer staff still available
- Spring cleanup May 18th; 9-12

F. Internet Cafe

- On hold due to change in IT personnel

G. Appointments/ Reappointments

- Stan reported no change
- April continues attempts to contact parents
- Charle Smith questioned his status; he has not received any information

H. Other: None

8. New Business: None

9. Adjournment: 11:30AM

Next Meeting: March 27, 2014

Respectfully submitted by: Shannon Aiello, Secretary